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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/939,062	08/27/2001	Hidetoshi Ikeda	MEIC:110	1731

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EXAMINER

PENDERGRASS, KYLE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/939,062	IKEDA, HIDETOSHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kyle M Pendergrass	2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 3, on page 16, lines 22-23, it is not clear as to which specific band is used for the top address. Examiner has interpreted this specific band as the band immediately following the band in which the top address is attached to. In other words, for example, BAND 2 immediately follows BAND 1. The top address of BAND 2 is attached to BAND 1. Please clarify claim 3 regarding the above comments.

Claims 4 & 5 are dependent claims for claim 3. A correction of claim 3 removes the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejection of claims 4 & 5.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsunekawa (US 6 734 989).

Regarding claim 1, **Tsunekawa** teaches a printer controller (*fig 2, print control unit 101*) for controlling (*col 4:lines 21-22, unit 101 controls laser printer 100*) a color printer engine (*fig 2, print engine 210*), comprising the following:

Regarding the interpreter processing means, rasterizing processing means, raster data storing means, band management processing means, and raster data transmitting means, col 5:lines 1-2 introduce CPU 201, which executes the print processing control program 203. The previously listed means in the printer controller are encompassed by CPU 201 in the operation of the program 203 as follows:

interpreter processing for generating an internal code in band unit from print data (*col 5:lines 5-8 & fig 4 & col 8:lines 36-37, print data received into buffer 207 is generated into band unit code*);

rasterizing processing for developing the internal code into raster data in band unit (*col 5:lines 8-11 & 33-41, band units are rasterized into raster data*);

raster data storing for storing the raster data (*fig 2 & col 5:line 62 – col 6:line 13, RAM 205 is used by CPU 1 for all kinds of image data resulting during processing, including raster data*);

band management processing for managing the stored raster data in band unit (*col 5:lines 42-45, the raster data is stored and accessed, i.e. managed*); and

raster data transmitting for outputting the stored raster data in a sequence based on management information from the band management processing means (*col 8:lines 17-35, when a print instruction, i.e. paper discharge instruction, is given, the raster data is transmitted/outputted in "successive fashion" as generated by the memory management unit*).

Regarding claim 2, **Tsunekawa** teaches printer controller of claim 1, further comprising compression processing means (*fig 2, unit 203f*) for compressing, in band unit, the raster data developed by the rasterizing processing means (*col 5:lines 47-50*), wherein said raster data storing means stores the compressed raster data (*col 7:lines 42-47, compressed data is stored in raster data storing means (RAM) 205*).

Regarding claim 3, **Tsunekawa** teaches printer controller of claim 1, wherein said band management processing means manages the stored raster data in band unit and attaches a top address of raster data of a next band of a specific band to the raster data of the specific band as a link address (*fig 4c, band data includes "address of next item of drawing information" which is attached at the end of the raster data as a starting address link*), and wherein said raster data transmitting means outputs the stored raster data in a sequence based on the link address (*col 9:lines 1-11, the processing is accomplished via sequentially reading out linking drawing information*).

Regarding claim 4, **Tsunekawa** teaches printer controller of claim 3, further comprising compression processing means (*fig 2, unit 203f*) for compressing, in band unit, the raster data developed by the rasterizing processing means (*col 5:lines 47-50*), wherein said raster data storing means stores the compressed raster data (*col 7:lines 42-47, compressed data is stored in raster data storing means (RAM) 205*).

Regarding claim 5, **Tsunekawa** teaches printer controller of claim 3, further comprising compression processing means (*fig 2, unit 203f*) for compressing, in band unit, the raster data to which the top address is attached (*fig 4C, drawing information with linking address is compressed raster data*), wherein said raster data storing means stores the compressed raster data (*col 7:lines 42-47, compressed data is stored in raster data storing means (RAM) 205*).

Contact Information

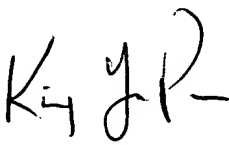
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kyle Pendergrass whose telephone number is **(571) 272-7438**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kyle Pendergrass

04/26/05


KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER